

Church of St. Sebastian
March 15, 2015 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Scheduled Masses For This Week

Saturday, March 14, Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent

5:00 pm Richard Gobeille, month's mind
-requested by his family

Sunday, March 15, Fourth Sunday of Lent

9:00 am George F. Johnson, Jr.
11:00 am For our Parishioners

Monday, March 16, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Tuesday, March 17, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Wednesday, March 18, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Thursday, March 19, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Friday, March 20, Lenten Weekday

7:00 am Mass

Next Weekend Masses

Saturday, March 21, Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent

5:00 pm Joan Andrews, 7th anniversary
-requested by Jonathan and Regina Andrews

Sunday, March 22, Sixth Sunday of Lent

9:00 am For our Parishioners.
11:00 am Mass

Have you considered having Mass offered for a deceased or living family member? Call the office to reserve your intention. The offering is \$20.

Our Lady's candle is for Anthony Pacheco, requested by his wife Cornelia.

DAYS OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Weekdays of Lent:

There is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday

These are days of **FAST and ABSTINENCE from meat**. There is a limit of one full meal on these days for all between the ages of 18-59 inclusive.

Days of Abstinence (All Fridays in Lent) All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

December 7, 1941, November 22, 1963, September 11, 2001... dates never forgotten in our national consciousness. But, 587 BC? Students of the Bible recognize it as the year that Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians. Having ignored the prophets' message of chastisement and exile, they violated grossly their covenant relationship with the God of Israel. Jerusalem fell to Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon. The siege lasted 30 months. After the fall, the elite were taken to Babylon in exile and shame. The walls were leveled; the Temple sacked and burned....the Holy City lay totally destroyed.

Today's Psalm (137) captures the sorrow and repentance of the people for their idolatry and sin. Cyrus, King of Persia (who conquered the Babylonians) permits the return of the captives to the city of Jerusalem. Think of our emotional response if St. Peter's Basilica, the center of our Catholic faith was destroyed, desecrated and burned by Isis. The turmoil would be overwhelming. All that being said by way of the historical setting,

Today is *Laetare* (Rejoice) **Sunday**...Lent is half over! Rose vestments are worn because it captures both sides of Christian joy: the partial joy we have now, and the overflowing, complete joy we will anticipate fully with God. Rose is the color of the morning horizon when the purple dark night just begins to brighten as the sun starts to rise. The remaining inhabitants of Jerusalem looked to the east as they awaited the return of the captives from Babylon.

We await the Morning Star, the Risen One, on Easter morn. The Church rejoices today as it prepares for the great events that won our salvation in Christ.

I pray your Lenten journey is affording you the Opportunity to take inventory of things spiritual. Pray while walking the Boulevard, come to morning Mass, make sandwiches for the poor, contribute to the Charity Drive, or attend the Stations on Monday at 6:30 pm. What have you done so far this Lent? Oh, and one more thing....

Happy Spring as of March 20th at 6:45 PM!!

~ Monsignor Darcy

*Let us pray for the repose of the soul of
George F. Johnson, Jr.
whose love for our parish was shown in a
bequest to St. Sebastian Church.
We remember him in gratitude and offer
Sunday's 9:00 am Mass for them this week.
May he rest in the peace of the Lord.*

Church of St. Sebastian
 1915 ~ Celebrating 100 Years of Faith ~ 2015



SAINT PATRICK'S DAY
 SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 6-9 PM
 Live music provided again by Jesse Jack'son

Reservations required by March 18th \$25 /person

Name: _____

of Tickets: _____ Phone: _____

**Corned beef n' cabbage, Irish Bread,
 and 'Holy Water!'**

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE SPRING!!!

2015 LENTEN SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: Monday - Friday at 7:00 am
Stations of the Cross - Mondays at 6:30 pm
Confessions - Saturdays at 4:00 - 4:45 pm
Rice Bowls are available in the vestibule.

ANNUAL LENTEN SANDWICH DRIVE IN MARCH:

The Outreach Committee is seeking volunteers for our annual sandwich drive to benefit Emmanuel House. Each Sunday in March we ask parishioners to make 10 hearty sandwiches and bring them to church before the 11 am Mass. An Outreach member will deliver them to Emmanuel House in time for lunch. Feel free to add fruit, chips, cookies or other snacks to your donation. Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule with additional details. This is an excellent Lenten family project.

2015 CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL

"Faith and Good Works"

The "in-pew" start of the 2015 Catholic Charity Appeal will be held the weekend of March 21/22. Our parish goal is again **\$79,822**.

Your gift to the 2015 Appeal reaches out to countless people in need throughout our diocese. No matter where you turn, you find someone who will benefit from your kindness.

Please give generously to the 2015 Catholic Charity Appeal.

REST IN PEACE: M. RACHEL SOUSA-BAXTER

We bid farewell this week to Rachel Baxter, an active and dedicated parishioner. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her husband, John, her three sons, and extended family. Well done, Rachel. Now enter into the joy of your Lord; and pray for us until we, too, see the face of God.

MONTHLY PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Names of friends, family, and fellow parishioners for whom prayers are asked will be listed monthly. If you would like a person included in next month's Prayers for the Sick please call the rectory. **Jim P., John Haddad, Deborah Bessette, Carmella Cardillo and Henry Berenson.**

CHILDREN'S CHOIR FOR EASTER

For Children 5 years and up, Rehearsals are held Mondays from 5:00 to 5:30 pm in the church basement. March rehearsal dates are March 16, 23, 30. Questions: marisarozek@gmail.com

WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

March 8, 2015

of Budget Envelopes Used This Week 94
 Contributions-Budgets and Checks \$ 5,426.00
 Loose Contributions \$ 549.00
 Total Offertory \$ 5,975.00

Please consider enrolling in Parish Giving, our electronic stewardship program for parish contributions. You can register online at www.Parishgiving.org or on our parish website at www.stsebastianri.org.

THIS WEEK AT ST. SEBASTIAN CHURCH

Sun.	3/15	No CCD Classes	
Mon.	3/16	No CCD Classes	
		Children's Choir Rehearsal	5:00 pm
		Stations of the Cross	6:30 pm
Tues.	3/17	Prayer Shawl Meeting	7:00 pm
Thurs.	3/19	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
Sat.	3/21	ST. PATRICK'S DAY	6:00 pm-
		DINNER	9:00 pm